

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 STR-04 IO-10 XMB-04 FRB-01

OPIC-06 CIEP-02 CU-04 SCA-01 /106 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:EPSMITH:YT

APPROVED BY ARA: WHLUERS

EB/EWT:SGOODMAN

TREASURY:SSOMMERFIELD

ARA/CAR:GPALAZZOLO

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ARA/CCA:CGLEYSSTEEN

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TO AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ESTC, EEWT, BTRA, US, CU, NS

SUBJECT: U.S. CUBAN TRADE POLICY

REF: PARAMARIBO 0267

1. US POLICY RESTRICTING DIPLOMATIC, CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA REMAINS UNCHANGED. SECRETARY HAS SAID FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES CANNOT COME BEFORE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES TERMINATES MULTI-LATERAL MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. SUBSEQUENT US CONSIDERATION OF ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES WILL BE DETERMINED IN LIGHT OF US BEST INTERESTS AS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY CUBA'S EXTERNAL POLICIES.

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2. PRESENT TRADE REGULATIONS REQUIRE PERSONS AND ENTITIES

UNDER US JURISDICTION, INCLUDING US CITIZEN OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF US OVERSEAS SUBSIDIARIES, TO OBTAIN TREASURY LICENSE TO CONDUCT FINANCIAL OR COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH CUBA. LICENSES HAVE BEEN GRANTED IN ONLY VERY RARE CASES WHERE FOREIGN POLICY CONCERNS HAVE BEEN PARAMOUNT.

3. US BANKING ENTERPRISES ARE SUBJECT TO MORE STRINGENT CONSTRAINTS THAN COMMERCIAL OR MANUFACTURING FIRMS. WHETHER

NON-AMERICAN BANKS ARE COVERED BY US TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS DEPENDS ON DEGREE TO WHICH US BANK EXERCISES CONTROL. TEN PER CENT INVESTMENT BY BANK OF AMERICA DOES NOT APPEAR TO REPRESENT SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF CONTROL.

4. HOWEVER, ALL US DOLLAR TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING CUBA BY ANY BANK REGARDLESS OF NATIONALITY ARE PROHIBITED WITHOUT A TREASURY LICENSE UNDER TREASURY REGULATIONS. MOREOVER, SINCE IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT DUTCH NATIONAL, WHILE NOT NORMALLY SUBJECT TO US TRAVEL CONTROLS, WOULD NOT BE DIVORCED FROM HIS ASSOCIATION WITH BANK OF AMERICA, HIS TRAVEL TO CUBA WOULD STILL APPEAR TO BE ON BEHALF OF BANK OF AMERICA AS WELL AS SURINAM BANK WHICH WOULD COUNTERVENE US TREASURY REGULATIONS.

5. WITH REGARD TO US CITIZEN TRAVEL, DEPARTMENT RESTRICTS USE OF US PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA TO PURPOSES OF JOURNALISM, SCHOLARSHIP, MEDICINE, CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS AND HUMANITARIAN REASONS. WE DO NOT VALIDATE US PASSPORTS FOR BUSINESS, TOURISM OR CULTURAL EXCHANGES.

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